

# The New Political Party.

FARMERS,  
SOLDIERS,  
WORKMEN.

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The announcement contained in the Winnipeg Tribune of Nov. 26th, regarding the convention being held at the headquarters of the Grain Growers of the Dominion Council of Agriculture and the United Farmers of Ontario, is one of the most significant ever made to the people of this country. The bold and meaningful statement is that a proposal is being submitted for the formation of a new political party, to be composed in the main of soldiers, farmers and workmen.

The spirit of every progressive citizen will be rejoiced at this announcement. In no country have the big interests had so much of their own way as in Canada. The usury collector and the tax juggler, ornamented betimes with titles, and entrenched in positions of strength and influence, have dominated the political and economic situation without let or hindrance. The party politician has danced attendance upon these agencies, with lucrative results to themselves for many years,

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The time has arrived for a radical alteration in the condition of affairs. The demand is for reconstruction throughout the whole political and economic life of the Dominion of Canada, as well as in the narrower areas of the provincial and municipal fields.

The people of this country must not be stampeded by the use that is being made by interested parties of the words "patriotism," "reconstruction" and other such like terms. There are agencies organized to promote their own selfish interests, based upon the doctrines of individualism, and possessed of the real spirit of autocracy, which regard the people of this country as a field for exploitation. These reactionary bodies, such as the Manufacturers' Association, the old political parties, the usury institutions, and the corporations with watered stocks, on which they design to collect huge dividends; these parties, we say, are making use of the terms "reconstruction," patriotism, &c, to advance their own ends.

The one guarantee of confidence for the people is that they evolve out of their own sense of economic oppression and political domination which have restrained progress in Canada from the beginning,—the scheme of economic and political emancipation.

The one patent thing about the Farmers' movement is the fact that it is the result of a long process of

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evolution in the consciousness of the people themselves. The same is true of the platform of the Labor party. Principle upon principle through the years of suffering and injustice, the ever-increasing fraternity of the Labor movement, has developed into a political agency which possesses and has promulgated a platform containing elements on which alone can be found a satisfactory solution to the present intolerable conditions.

Evidence is available every day to convince even the most disinterested that one of the greatest political forces in Canada will be the returned soldier. These men who have done so much for this country and the whole world, have peculiar claims to a consideration and a place in the affairs of the Land, some of which it will be the studious care of the plutocratic elements to flatteringly acknowledge while all the time the same class will be designing adroitly to put aside indefinitely other and more far-reaching proposals.

The intention to maintain things as they are for the benefit of the exploiters will not be altered one iota by any appeal made by even the brave men who have suffered to save the land from the Hun. The interests already named are no more ready after the war to reconstitute the economic system at the request of returned soldiers than they were before the war for the same men who were not not then soldiers.



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But the soldiers now are politicians and know what they want and what they have suffered. They went to Europe to fight to make the world safe for Democracy, There was no other way to do at the time. The war has done very much to secure safety for Democracy, so far as the policy of the Central powers are concerned. Shall we discover after the war that because of certain sworn enemies Democracy is not safe in this land ?

Democracy is not a gift from one class to another. Democracy is not secured by legislation. Democracy is secured only by the sharp determinations in the wills of the people that they shall not be enslaved in any department of life and that they will not consent to allow any member of society to be enslaved. Democracy is secured only by a war on selfishness.

On this broad platform there is an opportunity to create the union of a body of Political and Economic power which can secure the control of the destinies of Canada and carry on the war for Democracy. That union should consist of the Soldiers, the Farmers and the Workman of this country, without prejudice or jealousy as to who is named first, so long as the basic principles are comprehensive enough to include *all*.

The fate of the autocrat in Canada will be the same as in Europe, In

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the older lands the spirit of the oppressed and down trodden people has burst forth and the long cherished bitterness, amounting even to malice, has wrought destruction of life and property on a vast scale, Lacking constructive leadership, this was the only possible outcome to a disorderly uprising.

Among the Anglo Saxon peoples there is moving forward steadily an orderly revolution, the results of which will be the dislodgement from power of the political organizations which have subserviently obeyed the dictates of selfish interests and the complete and evolutionery reconstruction of the economic life of the nation so as to give every soul an intelligent and legal guarantee of a living freed from social oppression and a share in the created wealth which arises from industry and is the product of the whole community.

This orderly revolution is now proceeding and is laying hold of the people of this Dominion. Many voices are proclaiming its approach. The Farmers organizations, The Labor movement, The Great War Veteran Association, The Single Tax League, The Methodist General Conference, and many others, have placed on record their convictions in relation to this period of reconstruction.

The formation of a new party as proposed by the Farmers convention

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in Winnipeg, if it is achieved, will constitute the opportunity for a forward step and a mighty advance thereafter in the interests of the people of Canada.

The Dominion Labor Party exists to promote this great change in affairs by every legitimate means in its power. It does not regard poverty as a necessity in society nor does it support the economic theory of the profit system of to-day. It stands committed to the establishing of a minimum as well as a maximum of living, and the control of affairs so that the wealth of the nation would be conserved for the good of all the people.



